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11. (Once Amended) A method for the treatment of a disorder associated with diarrhoea comprising the step of administering a lactic acid bacterium strain belonging to the genus *Lactobacillus* having the capability of preventing colonization of the intestine with pathogenic bacteria causing diarrhoea.

12. (Once Amended) A pharmaceutical composition containing at least one lactic acid bacterium strain belonging to the genus *Lactobacillus* having the capability of preventing colonization of the intestine with pathogenic bacteria causing diarrhoea or a supernatant of a culture thereof.

13. (Once Amended) The method according to claim 11 wherein the lactic acid bacterium strain is in a composition which is selected from the group consisting of milk, yogurt, curd, cheese, fermented milks, milk based fermented products, ice-creams, fermented cereal based products, milk based powders, infant formulae, tablets, liquid bacterial suspensions, dried oral supplement, liquid oral supplement, dry tube feeding and liquid tubefeeding.

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Please add newly submitted claims 14-22 as follows:

14. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 12 wherein the *Lactobacillus* strain is capable of adhering to the intestinal mucosa of a host organism.

15. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 12 wherein the *Lactobacillus* strain is capable to grow in the presence of up to 0.4 % bile salts.

16. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 12 wherein the *Lactobacillus* strain is selected from the group consisting of *Lactobacillus rhamnosus* and *Lactobacillus paracasei*.

17. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 12 wherein the *Lactobacillus* strain is *Lactobacillus paracasei*.

18. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 12 wherein the *Lactobacillus* strain is *Lactobacillus paracasei* CNCM I-2116 (NCC 2461).

19. The method of claim 7 wherein the ingestable support material is a food composition selected from the group consisting of milk, yogurt, curd, cheese, fermented milks, milk based fermented products, ice-creams, fermented cereal based products, milk based powders, and infant formula.

20. A method for preventing a disorder associated with diarrhea comprising the step of administering to a patient at risk of such disorder a lactic acid bacterium strain belonging to the genus *Lactobacillus* having the capability of preventing colonization of the intestine with pathogenic bacteria causing diarrhea.

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21. A food containing a lactic acid bacterium strain belonging to the genus *Lactobacillus* having the capability of preventing colonization of the intestine with pathogenic bacteria causing diarrhoea.